



## 2011 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

### Display Report

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<b>Project Title:</b>	Wetland Invasive Plant Control, Ridgefield NWR	
<b>Region: Use region number ONLY</b>	1	
<b>Station:</b>	Ridgefield NWR	
<b>Contact Person: Name and Phone Number</b>	Lynn Cornelius	
<b>Project Description: (Up to 250 words)</b>	This project would expand survey, control, and monitoring efforts to detect new wetland invasive plant threats and reduce the accumulation of recently documented populations. Primary target species will be ricefield bulrush, fragrant water lily, yellow water iris, purple loosestrife, indigobush, reed canarygrass, and new species as discovered. A Restoration Coordinator through the Friends of Ridgefield NWR will lead work and recruit volunteers. The Coordinator and volunteer invasive plant hunters will survey 1,000 acres for ED/RR of invasive plant species. Approximately 84 acres of target invasive plants will be spot treated: 44 acres through pulling/digging with volunteer crews and 40 acres with herbicide treatment by the Coordinator and licensed volunteer herbicide applicators. A seasonal field crew leader/AmeriCorps member will assist. Funds will be combined with other annual habitat restoration grant funding.	
<b>List of Invasives Species Targeted:</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
	ricefield bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>
	yellow water iris	<i>Iris pseudoacorus</i>
	fragrant water lily	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>
	Armenian (Himalayan) blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>
	purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
	tansy ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobea</i>
	reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
	Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed	
<b>Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date:</b> (mm/dd/yyyy)	09/30/2012	

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

<b>Volunteer Affiliation:</b> (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp VA_Scouts VA_SchoolGrp VA_AmeriCorps VA_Other
<b>Volunteer Involvement:</b> Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	Volunteer crews pulled and dug more than 16,000 ricefield bulrush plants and yellow flag iris. Three (3) volunteer herbicide applicators renewed state licenses and treated invasives by truck, boat, ATV, backpack and bottle sprayers to avoid non-target impacts and allow re-colonization by other preferred plants. Seven (7) volunteer invasive plant hunters took annual field training and searched on foot, ATV, boat, and canoe and recorded occurrences on maps and by GPS. Volunteer recruitment and turnout was especially successful for bulrush control work in 2012.
<b>Total Number of Volunteers:</b>	246
<b>Total Number of Volunteer Hours:</b>	1025
<b>Partnerships:</b> List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	Partners are the Friends of Ridgefield NWR, The City of Ridgefield, Gee Creek Enhancement Committee, adjoining private landowners, and community volunteers.

## PROJECT RESULTS

<b>Project Results:</b> Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	Project funds were obligated to the Friends of Ridgefield NWR in FY 2011. Program Staff agreed to extend the project from March 30 to Sept. 30, 2012. Funds were combined with partial Invasives with Vols 2012 funding (STEP applicator salary) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative funds to accomplish the following proportion of annual invasive plant tasks to complete the project: In 2011, 35 volunteer visits contributed 150 hours to cut and dig target plants over 1.75 acres and treat 32.25 acres with herbicide. In 2012, more than 34 volunteer visits contributed 169 hours to search for invasive plants over 1,545 acres of refuge and adjoining lands and waters. This included 125 hours by a trained canine search team for ricefield bulrush and purple loosestrife. More than 19 volunteer visits contributed 113 hours to spray plants across 176 acres. Knotweed was treated along 1 mile of Gee Creek. 158 volunteer visits contributed 593 hours to pull 12,000 ricefield bulrush from 53 primary acres in 2012. Early Detection: Single plants were detected and treated at several new disjunct new locations in 2012 for 1 Japanese knotweed, 2 purple loosestrife, yellow flag iris (2 clusters), and 1 ricefield bulrush plant. New locations were discovered for yellow flag iris, houndstongue, milk thistle, slenderflower thistle, and one new species - shiny geranium. Application records and maps were produced for all treatments. Ricefield bulrush and other GPS waypoints were entered into Refuge GIS files. 11 photos were taken at 4 new photomonitoring points.
<b>Number of Acres Treated:</b>	263
<b>Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:</b>	1545
<b>Number of Acres Restored:</b>	5

## BUDGET INFORMATION

**Budget:** Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

<b>Total Grant Amount:</b>	\$ \$20,000.00
----------------------------	----------------

**Breakdown of Expenditures:**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Total \$ Spent</b>	<b>% of Total Grant</b>
Equipment / Supplies		
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel		
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$20,000	100%
Restoration Materials		
Other		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

<p><b>Recommendations:</b> (OPTIONAL)          How useful was this program for meeting refuge          invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?</p>	<p>This program funding remains an essential annual component of invasive plant control work with volunteers at Ridgefield NWR. Annual grant funding is necessary to maintain a full-time project coordinator to build on the momentum of early detection search and annual control work gained over the last 6 years, accomplishing objectives in the Refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Funds awarded were combined with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative funds, R1 Invasives with Volunteers 2012, and a portion of R1 Inventory and Monitoring 2011 funding.</p>
--	--

- [Return to Main Menu](#) -